

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5757
INFO /AMEMBASSY LONDON 402
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 2869

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK
SUBJ: RHODESIA: APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENTS

REF: (A) STATE 141940, (B) YAOUNDE 2851

1. ON RECEIPT OF REFTEL, WE IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED THE
BRITISH HEAD OF CHANCERY. WHILE HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO
MAKE A DEMARCHE, THE TALKING POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL HAD NOT
BEEN TRANSMITTED. COORDINATION AMONG OTHER WESTERN POWERS WAS
LEFT TO BRITISH. IT WAS FELT THAT THERE WAS SOME URGENCY IN
BRINGING THIS MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF GURC
BECAUSE THE OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED
TO MEET NEXT WEEK. SINCE I WAS SEEING THE SECRETARY GENERAL AT
THE PRESIDENCY AFTERNOON OF THE SIXTH, I MENTIONED ZIMBABWE
BRIEFLY AND INDICATED THAT OUR BRITISH COLLEAGUES WERE
FOLLOWING UP WITH AN AIDE MEMOIRE. THE BRITISH HAD AGREED.
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2. SAMUEL EBOUA, SECRETARY GENERAL IN THE PRESIDENCY AND THE
PERSON WHO RUNS CAMEROON IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESIDENT, TOLD
ME THAT THE CAMEROON GOVERNMENT FULLY SUPPORTS THE ANGLO-
AMERICAN INITIATIVE AS OFFERING THE BEST CHANCE FOR A PEACEFUL
SOLUTION OF THE ZIMBABWE PROBLEM. HE SAID THAT IT WAS
ESSENTIAL FOR ALL PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT TO COME TOGETHER

AND DISCUSS THE MATTER IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN IF IT COULD REACH AN AGREED UPON SETTLEMENT. THE EFFORTS OF THE US AND THE UK IN THIS REGARD WERE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

3. ON JUNE 9, AFTER HAVING RECEIVED THEIR TALKING POINTS, IAN GLASBY, BRITISH HEAD OF CHANCERY, SAW MR. NTONGA IN THE AFRICA DIVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DELIVERED AN AIDE MEMOIRE WHICH MAKES THE SAME POINTS AS CONTAINED IN THE REFTEL AND REQUESTS THE CAMEROON GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN POSITION. NTONGA INDICATED THE GURC WOULD CAREFULLY STUDY PROPOSAL. AS I WAS SEEING FOREIGN MINISTER ON THE IRAQI RESOLUTION IN THE SSOD REFTEL B, I OFFERED TO GIVE HIM A DROP COPY OF THE RESOLUTION. THE BRITISH WELCOMED THIS SUGGESTION.

4. THE FOREIGN MINISTER REITERATED CAMEROON SUPPORT FOR ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS AND STATED THAT HE HOPED SOME WAY WOULD BE FOUND TO BRING ALL OF THE PARTIES IN THE CONTROVERSY TOGETHER IN ORDER THAT THEY COULD SETTLE THEIR OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS AND GET ON WITH AN AGREED SOLUTION TO ACHIEVE TRUE INDEPENDENCE FOR ZIMBABWE.

5. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT PRESIDENT AHIDJO PRESENTED THE LUSAKA MANIFESTO TO THE UN IN 1968, FOREIGN MINISTER KEUTCHA WAS SENT TO THE RECENT SPECIAL UN DEBATE ON ZIMBABWE, AND THAT CAMEROON IS A MEMBER OF THE OAU LIBERATION
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COMMITTEE, I BELIEVE THAT IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT GURC BE KEPT FULLY INFORMED AT SUFFICIENTLY HIGH LEVEL ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN MATTERS. THIS IS ONE OF THE AREAS OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO CAMEROON AND IN MY JUDGMENT OUR INCREASINGLY ACTIVE ROLE IN SEEKING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THESE PROBLEMS IS GREATLY APPRECIATED. FURTHERMORE, PRESIDENT AHIDJO ON OCTOBER 22, 1977, WHEN RECEIVING THE CREDENTIALS OF THE SENEGALESE AMBASSADOR. MADE THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC STATEMENT: (QUOTE) THAT IS WHY WE CONSIDER THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN AS AN ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD THE ACCESSION OF THE AFRICAN MAJORITY TO POWER IN ZIMBABWE. HOWEVER, AS LONG AS THE CHAMPIONS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION DO NOT SHOW SUFFICIENT PROOF OF THEIR WILLINGNESS TO GIVE WAY TO THE ASPIRATIONS OF AFRICAN PEOPLES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, WE WILL CONTINUE FOR OUR PART TO ENCOURAGE THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS TO DOUBLE THEIR VIGILANCE AND TO CLOSE RANKS AND TO GIVE THEM AS IN THE PAST ALL THE SUPPORT NEEDED IN ZIMBABWE, NAMIBIA AS IN AZANIA, IN THEIR JUST STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE, DIGNITY AND JUSTICE. (UNQUOTE) FROM ALL INDICATIONS, WHILE THE GURC CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PEACE PLAN, THEY REMAIN DISTRUSTFUL OF THE GOOD WILL OF THE WHITE MINORITY GOVERNMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

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